

Situation Report

Ethiopia faces escalating humanitarian crisis amid ongoing conflict and climate shocks

Country:	Ethiopia
Emergency type:	Conflict
Start Date of Crisis:	November 3, 2020
Date Issued:	April 15, 2025
Covering Period:	January 1 – March 31, 2025
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Key Indicators



5,513,541

Total people in need of GBV and SRH services (*Country HRP 2025*)



877,679

People targeted with SRH services (UNFPA Ethiopia HPRP 2025)



1,045,901

People targeted with GBV services (UNFPA Ethiopia HPRP 2025)



1,923,580

People targeted by (UNFPA Ethiopia HPRP in 2025)

Highlights

- A surge in **seismic activity** linked to magma movement at the Fentale volcanic complex in Ethiopia has displaced over 87,000 people in Afar and Oromia regions since December 2024. A rapid assessment was conducted to guide humanitarian response, which includes food, water, shelter, health, and education support. While response efforts are ongoing, significant gaps remain in Oromia due to limited humanitarian presence (OCHA, 2025).

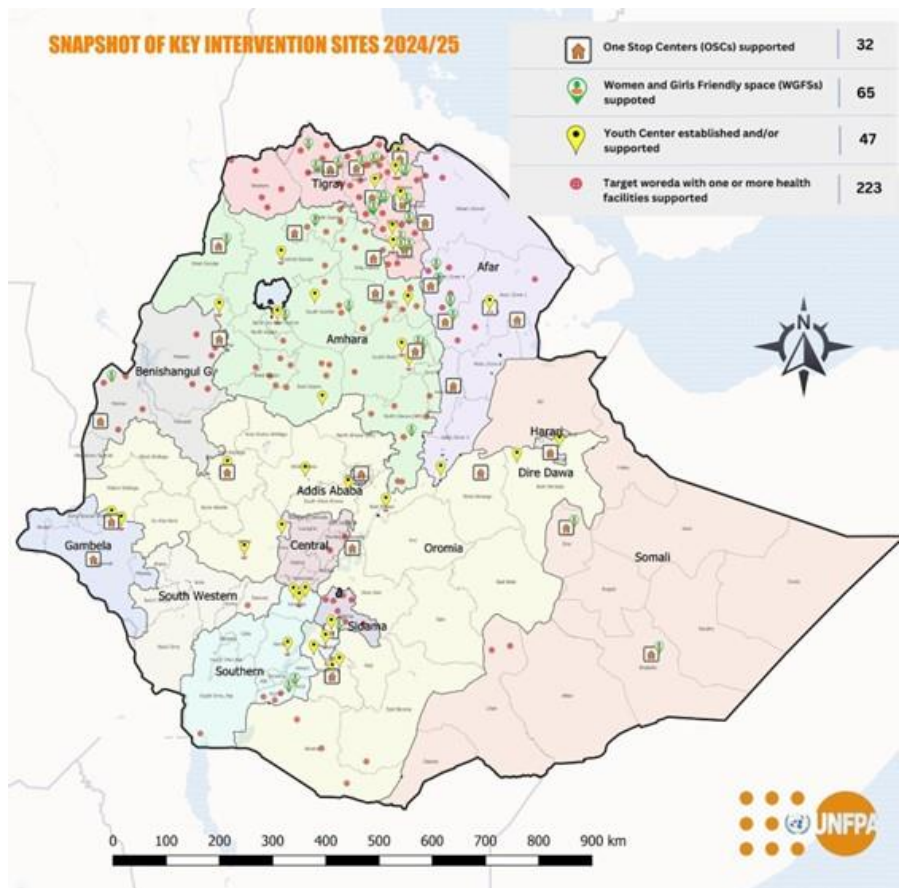
- **Rising tensions in the Tigray Region** are escalating humanitarian concerns, with over one million people—mostly displaced—urgently in need of assistance. Continued instability threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions if left unaddressed (OCHA, 2025).
- **Improved humanitarian access** in eastern Amhara has enabled the delivery of essential supplies, particularly in Raya Kobo woreda, where two health centers received long-awaited support in March 2025. While this marks important progress, overall humanitarian needs across the broader Amhara Region remain critical (OCHA, 2025).

Situation Overview

- Humanitarian needs across multiple regions in Ethiopia continue to escalate due to a combination of natural hazards and rising insecurity. Displacement, limited access to basic social services, and operational constraints have left millions in urgent need of assistance. While there have been notable improvements in access and coordination in some areas, critical gaps persist, especially in health, protection, and nutrition.
- The ongoing armed conflicts in the Amhara and Oromia regions are exacerbating gender-based violence risks, hindering the delivery of life-saving assistance, and further displacing vulnerable populations. The prolonged displacement of millions, coupled with the collapse of social services, has significantly worsened the vulnerabilities of affected communities. The need for interventions to restore reproductive health services, address protection needs and safeguard the dignity of those impacted is urgent.
- In addressing the needs of populations affected by the recent seismic activity in the Afar and Oromia regions the urgent provision of lifesaving health services remains a top priority, with mobile health and nutrition teams playing a vital role. On the protection front, critical concerns include the safety of evacuees, child protection, gender-based violence response, and mental health support. Immediate implementation of protection services is essential to safeguard affected populations.

UNFPA Response

UNFPA Ethiopia is exerting efforts in supporting interventions aimed at revamping restoration of sexual and reproductive health services, addressing protection needs and safeguarding the dignity of communities impacted by humanitarian emergencies across the country. UNFPA provided critical support in addressing needs in the areas of family planning, maternal and newborn health, and nutrition. In the first quarter of 2025, reached UNFPA reached **88,461 individuals** with lifesaving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and nutrition services. This included **18,537 individuals** who received family planning services, **18,112** who accessed maternal and newborn health services, and **8,763 pregnant and lactating women (PLW)** who were provided with essential supplements such as iron and folic acid.



The remaining **43,049 individuals** benefited from other SRH and nutrition interventions, including health education, STI prevention, and counseling services. During the first quarter UNFPA successfully dispatched commodities worth US \$758,538 to 6 regions which comprised of Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA) kits (42.33%), Dignity Kits (38.2%) and IARH kits (17%).

Gender-based violence (GBV) remains a critical concern in affected communities. Protection needs, GBV response, and mental health support continue to be top priorities. The breakdown of community structures and limited access to essential GBV services have significantly increased the risks faced by women and girls, further heightening their vulnerability. In response, UNFPA is scaling up the provision of integrated GBV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services through multiple service delivery points to better meet the urgent needs of those at risk. In addressing protection needs UNFPA reached a total of **32,156 individuals during the first quarter**. This includes 255 women and girls reached with GBV response services such as emergency contraception and HIV post-exposure prophylaxis; 6,768 reached with health, legal, MHPSS and other essential services through one stop centres; 2,704 reached with GBV prevention and behaviour change sessions and other services through safe houses; and 22,429 reached with such services such as life skills and awareness raising sessions through Women and Girls' Friendly Spaces. These efforts were complemented by UNFPA's robust humanitarian coordination presence, leading the GBV AoR at national and regional levels with the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs (MoWSA) and the Bureaus of Women's Affairs.

Results Snapshot



88,461

People reached with lifesaving **SRH** services



758,538

Value of life-saving commodities dispatched to 6 regions



32,156

People reached with protection services

Coordination Mechanisms

- UNFPA, as the GBV AoR lead, participated in Ethiopia's 2025 Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM), a self-assessment of coordination and accountability. With a 77% response rate (51 out of 66 organizations), the assessment showed strong performance in service delivery, monitoring, advocacy, and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), while highlighting the need for improved strategic planning and stronger engagement with the Humanitarian Country Team.
- The draft 2025 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Ethiopia have been developed. The HNO estimates that 2.7 million people in conflict- and climate-affected areas will require gender-based violence (GBV) services. Additionally, 2.8 million people are projected to need sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services in 2025.

- UNFPA took part in the two-day workshop of the SRH Technical Working Group (TWG) held at the EPHI National Training Center to finalize the National Implementation Guidelines on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) in Humanitarian Settings. With support from SRH TWG partners, the guideline was thoroughly reviewed and finalized for submission to EPHI management for further review and endorsement. Additionally, UNFPA, on behalf of the SRH TWG, provided an update on SRH activities during the monthly health cluster meeting.

Funding Status

The UNFPA Ethiopia Humanitarian Preparedness and Response Plan for 2025 a total of US\$ **38,132,081**. As of April 2025, UNFPA Ethiopia has secured **US\$ 2,723,454** – **representing 7%** of the total requirement – through the support of different development partners.

UNFPA Ethiopia extends sincere gratitude to the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Spain, Japan, Sweden, as well as the Gates Foundation, USAID and OCHA for their vital contributions in advancing our mission to ensure rights and choices for all in humanitarian crises across Ethiopia in the first quarter of 2025.

